



OPINION

Students have a major beef with animal rights issues.

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SPORTS

Softball grabs two conference wins and gives coach win number 300.

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CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY SAN LUIS OBISPO

MUSTANG DAILY

APRIL 8, 1998

WEDNESDAY

VOLUME LXII, No. 93

MustangInfo to save students time, hassle

By Mark Hartz
Daily Staff Writer

Help has arrived for anyone who has ever waited in a long line at the Administration building to add a class, revise a schedule or verify enrollment.

QUICK FACTS

Cal Poly's MustangInfo has updated its format to allow students to check almost all of their student information online.

- Students can now get their grades, update their personal information, verify enrollment and see if they are cleared for CAP-TURE access online.
- Eventually, grades will no longer be mailed out.

The Office of Academic Records decided to discontinue printing the student fees form beginning spring quarter. The form listed classes the student was currently registered in, their home and local addresses and a fee worksheet. The form was then left for student pickup in their department offices.

"So few students picked it up, we found it wasn't cost effective,"

Associate Registrar Marcia Friedman said, adding that feedback received from the departments indicated a low percentage of students picked up the forms.

Although the form is no longer available to students, the same information is now accessible through MustangInfo in a different format.

Students can also update their personal information without having to wait in lines at the Administration Building.

Friedman said other changes are in the works as well.

"Within a couple of quarters...we will discontinue the mailing of grades," Friedman said, asserting that they'll only be available on the phone and on MustangInfo.

Students who need grade verification because of financial aid, insurance discounts or proof of units, can go to the Administration building, fill out a form and tell the employee what they need verified. The information will be sent out at no charge

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Language lab in dire straits

Broken equipment and no-show workers hamper lab's effectiveness

By Jessica Niland
Daily Staff Writer

A modern languages and literatures department lab is out of sync with Cal Poly's "Learn By Doing" mantra. The language lab has fallen into disrepair and lacks the funding to fix its machines.

"The language lab is completely outdated in methodology, pedagogy and just about every other 'ogy' you can think of," Lab Director Sofia Ramirez-Gelpi said.

Lab assignments are a required part of most language classes. Students must go to the lab, located in the Air Conditioning Building (Bldg. 12), and listen to audio tapes to complete assignments, which are turned in to the lab monitor on duty for credit.

According to Lab Monitor Monica Burt, almost half of the listening stations are currently



Daily photo by Xavier Lanier

Students sit in these cubicles in the language lab, struggling to listen to tapes on outdated equipment.

out of order, and only one of the lab's three duplicating machines works.

"If the last machine breaks, we'll have no way to copy tapes anymore," Burt said. "Also, the machines are old, and the copies we make from them are often defective. Every time a new text comes out, we have to make new tapes."

There is no money allocated to the lab for maintenance, so the

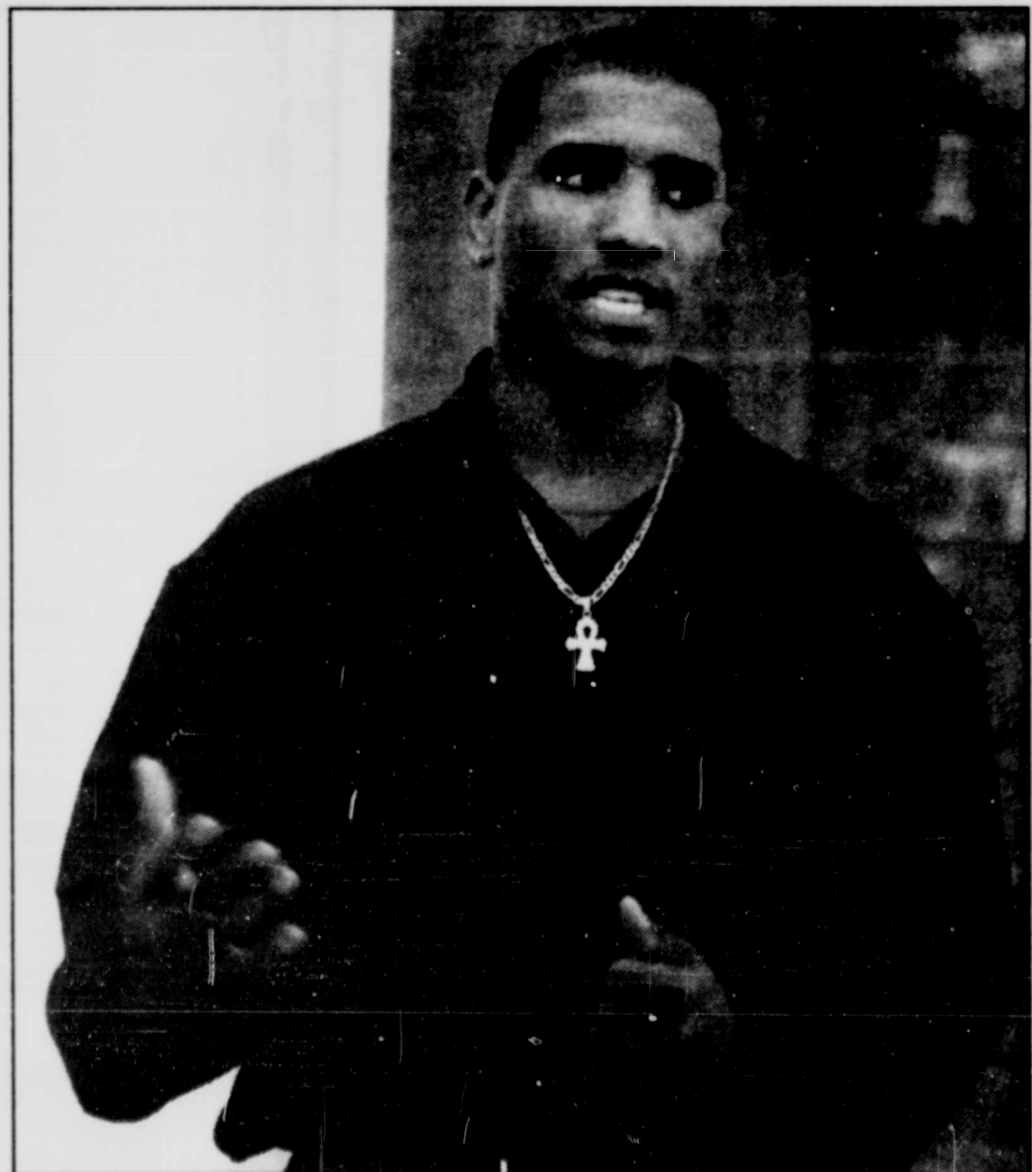
machines remain broken, Ramirez-Gelpi said.

There has also been a problem with lab monitors not showing up for shifts. Ramirez-Gelpi said there have been a few occasions when she has found the door to the lab closed when it should have been open.

She said she thinks this could be because the lab workers are

See LAB page 3

Forum addresses low minority enrollment at Poly



Daily photo by Steve Schueneman

By Christine Lawlor
Daily Staff Writer

Seventy students and faculty attended Vafambi, a new African American discussion group that met for the first time Monday to ponder the question, "Cal Poly's Admissions Crisis: Where are All the Black Faces?"

Presenters Victor Glover, Ingrid Bryan and Elizabeth Ahten-Anderson discussed the crisis situation they feel African Americans have reached in the aftermath of Prop 209.

The drop in the number of African Americans accepted to Cal Poly for Fall 1998 alarmed both the presenters and the audience alike.

Although the discussion was led primarily by African Americans, the audience consisted of students and faculty of all different ethnicities and cultures.

Vafambi's founder Henry Trotter, English senior, said he was very pleased with the turnout and the number of faculty and students who showed up.

"This was a very special Vafambi and a good way to start off the group because the issue concerns a lot of people," Trotter

said.

Glover, an engineering senior, was passionate in his presentation and stressed the need for immediate action in order to get results.

"Cal Poly has the chance to take this state into the next millennium by taking action now," he said. "This is not the first time this (a set back for minorities) has happened, but let's make it the last."

Glover said people need to put their time and money into increasing diversity at Cal Poly and reversing the effects Prop 209 will have on minority enrollment.

"Truth and technology will always take over bullshit and bureaucracy," Glover said.

Cal Poly Provost Paul Zingg attended the meeting. He said he sees a need for accuracy when bringing this issue to Administration.

"You have to have clear, accurate facts because they will only listen to the superficial facts, not necessarily your heartfelt plea," Zingg said.

Zingg said he would support the students 100 percent and would use his position to help

See DISCUSS page 3

HIV: to tell or not to tell?

By Jayson Matthews
Daily Staff Writer

Four out of every 10 people infected with the HIV virus don't tell the people they sleep with about their condition.

QUICK FACTS

- There have been 399 AIDS cases reported in San Luis Obispo County since 1983.

- A study found four out of 10 people with HIV don't tell the people they sleep with about their condition.

The finding comes from a February survey conducted on 300 participants at New England hospitals and published in the Archives of Internal Medicine. The news has many

in the medical community worried and local social workers are discouraged; no one has a solution to the problem.

"People who test HIV positive (in this county) are strongly encouraged to be open about their condition," said Marsha Bollinger, AIDS program coordi-

See AIDS page 3

Engineering senior Victor Glover encouraged people to invest time and money into increasing diversity at Cal Poly at the first Vafambi meeting.

MUSTANG DAILY NEWS briefs

The bus system wants your input

You finally get on the crowded early morning bus, but it's four minutes late again. You walk into class tardy, wondering all the while: Why doesn't the bus get to school at a time that actually allows you to make it to class before lecture starts?

If this sounds familiar, there's something you can do about it. Now's the chance to have your voice heard.

The city and county bus systems want to know what your bus needs are.

The "Transit Unmet Needs Hearing" will take place today at 9:30 a.m. at the County Government Center in the Supervisors Chambers. But if you miss out on that, it's not too late. You can grab a Bus Needs Survey form located on campus at Public Safety or U.U. Student Life and Activities. For more information, call Commuter Services at 756-6680.

Get in on Women's History

Planning for next year's Women's History celebration begins now. If you'd like to be part of the student group which will create the February 1999 program, join the team at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 9 in U.U. room 218. Your ideas, energy and enthusiasm are needed to make next year's program a success.

For more information, please call the Women's Center at 756-2600.

Poly Landscape Team wins again

The Cal Poly Landscape Team took first place at the annual Associated Landscape Contractors of America Collegiate Competition for the 10th time in 12 years.

The competition took place at North Carolina State University. More than 40 universities, colleges and junior colleges participated, with 510 students competing in the various categories.

The Cal Poly team won the overall competition and many team members placed in the top 10 in their individual disciplines.

Team members included Bryan Ashby, Jason Green, Nyles Gregory, Gabrielle Hartnett, Bill Herbert, Pearce Kaner, Jaime Lien, Janice Luke, Eric Martin, Melissa McDonald, Robbie Roberts, Kirk Schram and Chris Wassenberg.

STD Awareness Month targets genital warts

April is National STD Awareness Month, according to the American Social Health Association (ASHA).

ASHA is urging people to break the silence about one of the most common, yet least discussed, sexually transmitted diseases, human papillomavirus (HPV). Some types of HPV cause genital warts and others can cause cervical cancer in women.

"Because HPV is extremely common and often symptomless, education is essential for early detection and treatment," said Linda Alexander, ASHA president and chief executive officer. "That is why we are dedicating this year's National STD Awareness Month to enhancing awareness of HPV."

Studies by ASHA have revealed poor communication between doctors and patients regarding sexually transmitted diseases. A pamphlet from ASHA suggests that everyone who's sexually active be tested for STDs and give their doctors full disclosure of their sexual history.

Salaries for college faculty rise, but not enough to offset past declines

By Melissa B. Robinson
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — College faculty salaries rose 3.4 percent this year, with full professors at research universities now making just under \$80,000, a study released Tuesday showed.

With inflation running at just half that rate, it was the largest increase in faculty pay in a decade, said the American Association of University Professors.

But professors still lag far behind other professionals when it comes to salary, and their pay, when adjusted for inflation, is actually 4.4 percent lower today than it was in 1971-72, the AAUP said.

The findings are based on an association survey of 1,839 colleges and universities in 1997-98.

College and university faculty earned 42 percent less than other

professionals with similar levels of education, the study said. That comparison was based on federal earnings data for workers with at least 18 years of education.

For example, the lowest-paid engineers and lawyers earned roughly \$8,000 more than the lowest-paid professors in 1996, the study said. By contrast, the highest-paid engineers and lawyers earned about \$62,000 more than the highest-paid professors.

Jacqueline King of the American Council on Education, a group representing university presidents, acknowledged that professors haven't made any real salary gains since the 1970s, but said schools are also under tremendous pressure to keep tuition down.

"On one hand — the faculty, they work hard, they're prepared with a lot of education for their jobs — this is not a lot of money,"

she said.

"At the same time ... institutions have to do all they can to keep their costs down, and one of their biggest costs is salaries," she said. "Institutions are under a lot of competing pressures."

The average salary for full professors at research universities — those with doctoral programs — was \$79,346.

The study also found increasing disparities among faculty at different types of colleges, although it said the gap was not as great as in many professions.

Overall, faculty at doctoral-level schools earned 28 percent more than those at schools with some postgraduate programs, 50 percent more than those at primarily undergraduate schools and 52 percent more than teachers at two-year colleges, the study said.

Some pickup trucks crumple in crash tests

By Glen Johnson
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In TV commercials, pickup trucks look indestructible, so much so that one automaker brags they're "like a rock." But back them into a loading dock or bump them into another vehicle and it can be a different story.

An insurance industry study released Tuesday found that some popular small pickups racked up sizable repair bills in crash tests at just 5 mph. Leading the way was the Toyota Tacoma, which sus-

tained \$4,361 in damage over four low-speed tests.

The best of the lot, the Chevrolet S-10 LS, had \$2,246 in damage. The other trucks tested by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety were the Ford Ranger XLT (\$2,952 in total damages), the Dodge Dakota Sport (\$3,863) and the Nissan Frontier XE (\$3,867).

The institute, which is sponsored by the insurance industry, said the trucks sustained the damage because most are equipped with rigid bumpers. By contrast, cars have bumpers that contain energy-absorbing materials such as

foam.

"People may think that pickup trucks are tough. But they quickly find out this isn't true when they bump into something at a slow speed and then have to shell out thousands of dollars to repair the damage," said Adrian Lund, the institute's senior vice president.

Truck makers took issue with the test results, as well as the group conducting them.

"The Tacoma meets all the general requirements for crash worthiness," said Julie Alfonso, spokeswoman for Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc.

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Lust for loot sends dreamers to buy tickets for \$80 million

By Jennifer Kerr
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Ordinary jobs and mundane lives don't seem very palatable when there's a \$80 million pie in the California Lottery sky.

Around California, people are feverishly buying SuperLotto tickets for Wednesday night's jackpot, the second-largest in state lottery history.

And they're dreaming of how that much money could change their suddenly dreary existences.

"I will buy a home and visit my country again," said Miguel Jimenez, 89, whose homeland is Nicaragua. He bought one ticket Tuesday at PK's Donuts & Ice Cream Shop in the Los Angeles suburb of Echo Park.

Susan Frankel purchased a ticket at a downtown San Francisco grocery for "48 hours of fantasy."

"If I win, I won't be one of those people who say 'Oh, my life won't change,'" she said. "My life will

change."

"I would probably start my own business. I'd certainly quit the day-to-day work," said computer software designer Bob Rood, 41, as he stepped out of a midtown Sacramento liquor store.

All you have to do is plunk down \$1, pick six numbers or let the computer do it for you and buck the 1-in-18-million odds.

State legislative worker Bill Castillo, buying tickets at a mini-mart in downtown Sacramento on Tuesday, says he "was almost hit by lightning the other day." He took that as an omen.

Castillo fantasizes about paying off college loans — for his daughter and himself.

This gigantic jackpot has an intriguing new twist. For the first time, the winner can opt for a lump-sum payment instead of annual amounts.

With a \$80 million jackpot, a single winner could receive 26 graduated annual payments, starting at about \$2 million and ending at about \$4 million.

said.

Friedman said that Academic Records is also looking at other options that would provide more flexibility such as registration on the web.

"We would not replace the phone registration," she said. "We would like to have the combination (of telephone and web registration)."

"(Web) registration would be great," McLaughlin said. "If the phone line is busy, you can always try and get in through the Internet."

Other new features on MustangInfo are a "CAPTURE Clear to Register" function which shows students whether their fees have cleared so they can register for classes and an "Information Release Restrictions" function which a student can use to have their name and personal information included or excluded from the on-line student directory.

MustangInfo is updated at night, so students can only access it from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friedman added.

AIDS

from page 1

nator for the San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department. "I am very distressed at the findings...but we have no information as to whether or not people actually do this."

Bollinger said the money necessary to conduct follow-up studies on AIDS cases would far exceed state funding for AIDS programs, adding that it is not against the law to keep one's HIV status a secret.

"Making people tell the truth would be very much impossible to enforce," she said.

All HIV testing at the Health Center is also done through the County, so student and non-student statistics are lumped into one anonymous sum, said Lori Williams, health record technician at Cal Poly Health Services.

"Testing that is state-funded is

always anonymous," she explained, "so we have no way of knowing how many students here at the college are infected."

Regardless, Cal Poly does provide HIV counseling, but it is the students' responsibility to seek out the service. Doctoral Intern for Cal Poly Psychological Services Lilliana Escobar said a well-versed staff in HIV issues is always on hand.

"We do not have any group services," she said, "but individuals can always come in for free, confidential, one-hour sessions."

Escobar could not comment on the number of Cal Poly students who have sought counseling.

There have been 399 AIDS cases reported in San Luis Obispo County since 1983. Bollinger said cases of full-blown AIDS have been declining since that time, but added that new drugs for HIV positive patients could be largely

responsible for that drop.

"I think we are seeing a lot more well people out there who are still infected but are not getting to AIDS, so our numbers are not reflective of those folks," she said.

Studies on the drugs to treat HIV infected patients, generically known as protease inhibitors, continue to produce optimistic findings, but some say the media has glorified the results.

"Really only 50 percent of (infected patients') bodies can handle the new drugs," said David Kilburn, coordinator of finance for the San Luis Obispo AIDS Support Network. Kilburn, who was diagnosed HIV positive in 1984, says he owes his life to the inhibitors.

"But not everyone is so lucky," Kilburn cautions. "I think the media is largely responsible for perpetuating the myth that AIDS is no longer such a threat to anyone. Trust me, it still is!"

DISCUSS

from page 1

them in anyway he could.

"I'm here because of my head and my heart," Zingg said. "I'm with all the brothers and sisters in the room and I want change."

Many students had the chance to voice their opinions during the open forum. Architectural engineering senior Rufus Chambers said that the issue needs to be identified as the serious problem that it is.

"Most people don't identify it as a problem," he said. "We need to educate the community, identify a need and take action."

Charles Smith, an engineering senior, said he's frustrated with barriers he finds when trying to make change for minorities, adding that he wants the efforts to improve minority problems taken seriously so they can make a difference.

"There is always a loophole, always a way not to do it," Smith said. "Why aren't we doing it? When is something going to be done?"

Smith also said in order for things to be accomplished, everyone needs to commit to the issue as a group and work together rather than individually.

"We have to take energy from all of us and take action in order to make it all come together and work for our benefit," Smith said.

Tony Domingues, assistant director of admissions, said he understands students' frustration about the matter because he has also run into barriers.

"I would like to see the money needed to recruit young minorities to Cal Poly through Outreach programs," he said. "Where is the money needed to give (minorities) scholarships to go here? I just

don't see it."

Domingues said he agrees with Zingg about the need for accuracy when presenting the minority's side of the issue.

"Do your homework, get the facts straight," he said. "Then barge into the office of admissions and let them know your stance."

Carlos Arrendondo, a biology senior, said he has always felt unwelcome by Administration.

"We have to come together," he said. "Latinos and Blacks need to fight against the people who don't want us here."

According to Trotter, Vafambi does not take a stance on this issue. It's just an open forum for discussion.

I'm here because of my head and my heart. I'm with all the brothers and sisters in the room and I want change.

--Paul Zingg
Cal Poly provost

FORMS

from page 1

to the student, according to Friedman.

Most students already use MustangInfo to check their grades. Art senior Chris Dennis is one of them.

"Usually, by the time grades are mailed out, I already know what I have," Dennis said. "(The mailed out grades) just give me something to send home to my parents."

Thanks to MustangInfo, Friedman said, students don't need to come in to the Administration building to get a copy of their schedule during the quarter if they misplace it.

The MustangInfo Activity Report showed that 3,684 students checked their schedules online between March 30 and April 4. There were a total of 171,731 visitors to the web page during that time.

"I like the fact that I can check my records and grades from my house (using MustangInfo)" business senior Mike McLaughlin

LAB

from page 1

students and often take on more hours than they can fit into their school schedules.

The lab was last updated around 1987, according to Bianca Rosenthal, chair of the modern languages and literature department.

"This lab is tape-oriented, and there have been new developments in technology which should be reflected here," Rosenthal said. "We are looking toward an interactive lab."

Ramirez-Gelpi says that the lab does not reflect the "Learn By Doing" and 21st-century emphasis Cal Poly claims to embrace.

"The (lab) work is extremely boring and tedious and completely against what Cal Poly is trying to present itself to be," Ramirez-Gelpi said. "We are using technology from the '50s."

Spanish instructor Ana Hartig-Ferrer said she has decid-

ed to make lab work in her class optional this quarter as extra credit. She said she did this because her students always complained in the past about going to the lab. She thought they might have a more positive attitude if the lab were optional, she said.

Rosenthal said her department recently submitted a statement of intent for developing a more advanced lab to the Cal Poly Plan Steering Committee. She said the proposal was turned down, and she doesn't know why.

The proposal involved establishing a multimedia lab between the modern languages and literatures department and the instructional technology department.

Rosenthal said she finds it particularly ironic that the plan was turned down just as her department was approved as a major, which just happened this quarter.

There were 32 statements of intent submitted to the Cal Poly Plan Steering Committee, according to Bonnie Krupp, a research

and planning analyst for the Institutional Planning and Analysis department.

"The Statements of Intent were reviewed by a committee of students, staff and administrators," Krupp said. "The committee selected those that they thought would be of most benefit to the students."

Krupp said 18 of the plans were selected to submit more formal proposals. No decisions have been made yet in terms of exactly how the money will be allocated, she said.

Krupp also said the steering committee was looking for proposals that are university-wide, collaborative projects which best fit the objectives of the Cal Poly Plan.

The language lab will now have to receive funding from other sources, Ramirez-Gelpi said. The department is currently looking at grants, foundations and seeking donations.

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Editor's note:

Welcome Back kiddies! Most of you jet-setters finished winter quarter finals then whisked yourselves off to amazing spring break adventures. I, on the other hand, was bombarded by an overwhelming amount of letters which almost burst my mailbox. The surplus of letters was an opinion editor's wet dream with just one very disturbing and ironic wake-up call—no paper to put them in.

Finally, a topic students responded to with mass enthusiasm and just my luck, no paper. Instead of just casting these responses out like yesterday's news, I decided to publish them for your reading enjoyment.

Before you today are some aged-to-perfection letters to the editor. The letters (with the exception of "More money for student employees") are part of an on-going discussion sparked by "Misuse of words, not mistreatment of animals," by Colleen Walsh March 5 followed by "Animals have feelings too, killing them is cruel," by Jonathan Dune March 10 and "Talked to any cows lately?" by Shaun Crooks on March 12.

Thanks for the responses. Keep writing in and let everyone know where you stand on the issues.

Love ya babe! You're all fabulous!

Jaime Borasi
Daily Opinion Editor

More money for student employees

Editor,

I opened up Monday's edition of Mustang Daily (April 6) and the "National Student Employment Week" ad jumped out at me. A thought immediately popped into my mind—what better way for Cal Poly to show its appreciation for student employees than to give them the minimum wage increase?

Students work everywhere from Campus Dining to Computing Services. The campus would virtually shut down without its student employees. The student worker is even classified as a state employee.

However, it has come to my attention that state employees are exempt from the state-mandated minimum wage increase (this is an incredibly hypocritical policy). As a result, Cal Poly, a state university, opted not to give its student employees the much needed wage increase. This decision does not make sense to me.

Even with the tax break student employees receive, they now take home a net monthly income that is 2 percent less (at \$5.15 per hour) than they would working the same number of hours at Taco Bell (for the new minimum wage of \$5.75 per hour).

Come on, Cal Poly! Show your undying gratitude to your hard-working students. Surprise us all by increasing the campus minimum wage, before we make a run for the border.

Sarah Smith is a student employee and English junior.

Much mooore than steak

By Kelly Ramin

reason, we should be protecting them, not hurting them.

The taste of meat by no means constitutes a reason for animals to suffer at the slaughterhouse. Can't humans control themselves from overindulgence for once in order to save others from torture, or are we just too selfish to care?

I'd also like to briefly cover the insinuation Shaun made that Mr. Dune was unintelligent for thinking that animals have feelings and should be treated as so. For his information, as well as everyone

"Talked to any cows lately?" Ahh, a refreshingly humorous title that is unfortunately meant to mock people that actually have a set of morals when it comes to animals. I'm sure slaughterhouses across the country would be thanking Shaun Crook for spreading common misconceptions on methods used to kill animals today. This gives consumers a false sense of security that they aren't participating in the torture of millions of cows, let alone other animals by eating meat. Therefore, meat producers can go on making money because that's what matters the most...or at least according to them, it is.

However, I have chosen to shed some light on the subject, and inform many of you about what really goes on in slaughterhouses. I'm sorry to shatter so many of your beliefs by opening your eyes to the truth, but eventually somebody has to do it. After all, at the rate we're going, we won't be able to eat beef for much longer, considering that the massive numbers of cows being raised in our country alone could feed 1,300,000,000 humans on the grain and soybeans it takes to feed these animals. And every five seconds in the U.S., one acre of forest is cleared to create crop land to produce a meat-centered diet.

I will begin with the first mistake Shaun made, implying that cows have no feelings and that they're "just like any other crop." I'm not quite sure if Shaun meant emotional or physical feelings when he said cows lack them. Cows, like humans, share emotions and can feel pain. Because they can't communicate to us through spoken language doesn't automatically discount them from having the ability to experience feelings. After all, human babies are unable to speak, but we are quick to assume that they can feel.

Why do we not give this benefit of the doubt to animals? Throughout evolution, humans diverged from other mammals and birds after they had developed the part of the brain that controls impulses, emotions and feelings. Therefore, mammals, birds and humans should have similar abilities to feel. Their nervous systems are very much like ours and they respond in many ways like humans do to pain. The cerebral cortex of humans is much larger when compared relatively to other mammals, but this part of the brain is linked to thought, not feeling or emotion. Biologically speaking, ability to feel pain increases an animal's chance of survival because it causes the animal to avoid these sources.

It is well known that some animals have even more acute senses than our own, such as vision in birds, hearing in most wild animals and touch in others. Their lives depend much more on these abilities than ours do by any means. It is unfair for us, as humans, to assume animals don't feel because it is more convenient to us. It's likely that they do, and due to the fact that we have morals, and can

else's, many of the great minds have strongly advocated animal rights and welfare, such as Mark Twain, Albert Einstein, Albert Schweitzer, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Edison, George Eliot, Anna Sewell and many more. How can Shaun possibly make fun of Mr. Dune for holding these beliefs when these other individuals, noted for their intelligence, held the same beliefs? As Alexander von Humboldt said, "Cruelty to animals cannot exist together with true education and true learning."

Now, to address the perfect picture that Shaun Crook painted for us, with his imaginative "lush green pasture," and a "cowboy constantly protecting (the cows) from predators and doctoring them when need be." These cows are no longer owned by the quaint little country folk that this image evokes, but instead, by large companies, such as the Greyhound Corporation and several oil companies. Animals are now treated like machines, converting feed into flesh. In today's world, cows are lucky if they spend six months after their birth at pasture prior to being shipped off to a feedlot.

Before they even arrive at the feedlots, they are already put through a great deal. The trailers used to ship cows are often so full that if one of them slips, it's practically impossible to regain its stance and it gets trampled on by the other cows struggling for more room. Also, they may sit for up to 36 hours in a trailer with no feed or water, and by the end of their grueling journey, they may have lost a good portion of their body weight. Some of this loss can be quickly regained through water and feed, but some is also due to the stress forced upon them by this long, hard trip. There are also many cases of "shipping fever," a form of pneumonia which is a major indicator of stress. Overall, several animals die in the process of

transportation before even reaching the feedlots, where they stand on mounds of their own feces, on barren land, where they are fed improper foods and are exposed to extreme weather conditions.

When it actually comes time to kill these animals, imagine the fear the cows must feel as they are routinely goaded up a ramp to slaughter, being able to smell the blood of the previously killed animals in slippery puddles on the floor. They are supposed to be stunned to unconsciousness by electric current, or a captive-bolt pistol before their throats are slashed. In Britain, it was found by the

Farm Animal Welfare Council that even with the shock, it is "highly probable that the degree is not sufficient to render the animals insensitive to pain."

Most of the suffering at slaughterhouses, however, is from the frantic pace that the killing line must work. This equals less care being taken and a heightened chance for injury. But the companies are only trying to turn out the highest dollar possible.

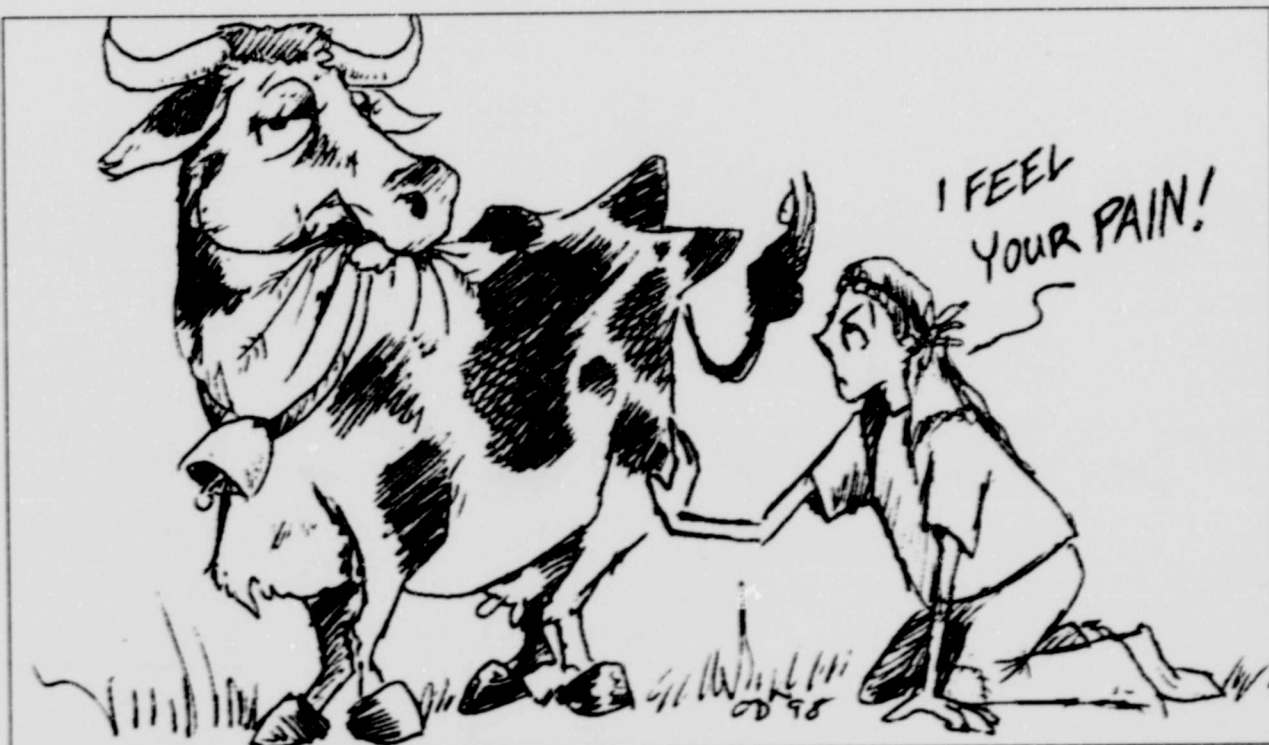
As if this wasn't bad enough, there's the Jewish and Muslim rituals which require an animal to be conscious when killed. This is still allowed because religious slaughter has been banned from the Humane Slaughter Act. With this, the animal is knocked to the floor, shackled around the rear leg and raised into the air where it hangs fully conscious for between two and five minutes. As a result, the skin is ripped off the back leg and the cannon bone is often snapped or fractured.

As the cow writhes around with its broken leg and ruptured joints in pain and terror, the slaughterer will kill the cow with a single stroke to the jugular veins. Not such a pretty picture after all, is it?

And to think Shaun Crook said they were "humanely processed and used for food." My dictionary states humane is characterized by tenderness, compassion and sympathy for other beings, especially for the suffering or distressed. I think human would have been a better choice of words, for its meaning is: having the nature of people. People have always trained themselves to avoid the problems at hand, leaving others to deal with them.

Humans don't often worry about how a cow was treated during its life because by the time it reaches our plates, it no longer resembles a living, breathing animal. So we just disregard any questions. I guess ignorance truly is bliss. Now that you know the truth, the next time you order that hamburger are you going to think twice before sinking your teeth into it? The animals need our help. Remember, it's your responsibility too. Like Ghandi said, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

Kelly Irene Ramin is an agricultural sciences freshman.



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Try beefing up your argument next time

Editor,

For the last three and a half years, we have read this paper almost daily. We often read the opinion pieces because they keep us in touch with the viewpoints of other students at Cal Poly. We have read several opinions that we did not agree with, but we could at least appreciate their argument or the point they were trying to make.

The opinions expressed in this paper usually contain some rational thought or, at the very least, the illusion of a rational argument. Unfortunately, that cannot be said of Shaun Crook's "Talked to any cows lately?" It was a feeble attempt at a rebuttal to Mr. Dune's article on animal cruelty.

We are not attempting to defend Mr. Dune's article because we are not proponents of animal rights. We enjoy eating red meat and we think our leather wallets look cool. We are, however, proponents of intelligent thought and well structured ideas, both of which eluded Mr. Crook's stream-of-consciousness commentary. For example:

1) In defense of the killing of cattle, Mr. Crook mentions, "Cattle are a commodity and a vital part of our economy." The fact that cattle are an important part of our economy does not justify their slaughter.

Slaves too were a commodity and "vital" to our economy at one time. Does that make slavery justifiable? We are not trying to trivialize slavery or say that the cattle industry is evil, but using the economy to defend the treatment of cattle is lame.

2) Mr. Crook also mentions that cowboys protect cattle from predators and

"doctor" them. Cowboys only protect the cattle until they get big enough to turn a profit. Then they slaughter them. We don't think this constitutes a positive influence on the cows' lives.

3) From paragraph eight: "Just like you are going to get paid for corrupting the young minds of our children (by becoming a teacher), we are going to get paid for raising cattle." What's that about? Is that an argument?

It bares a closer resemblance to a pathetic attempt at a tasteless insult, not an argument.

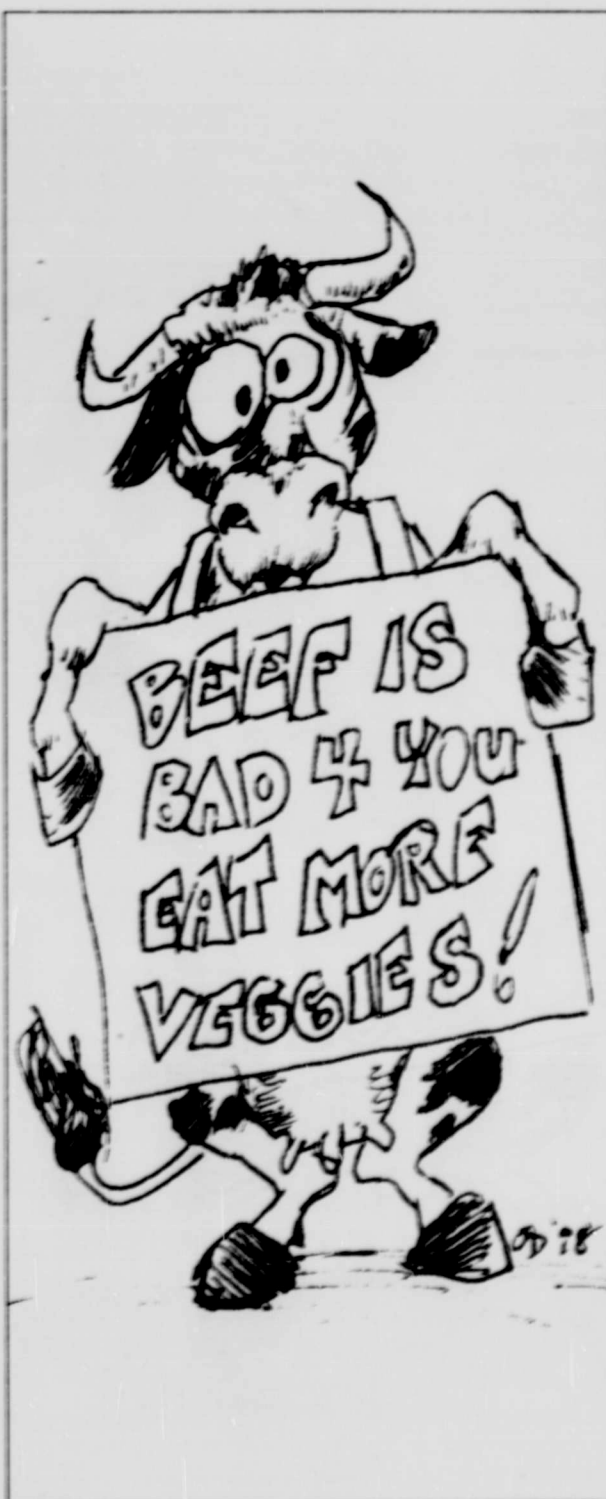
4) Last paragraph: Mr. Crook asks Mr. Dune to consider the feelings of the tree the next time "you are excreting an animal by-product and go to wipe your butt with TOILET PAPER." At what grade level do we need to write to respond to that? Mr. Crook must have thought this made an excellent closing remark (it's CAPITALIZED). He was probably thinking, "not only is it a great point, it is also completely hilarious! Excreting an animal by-product! That ought to shut Mr. Dune up!"

However, we must applaud Mr. Crook for not using the phrase, "taking a shit." We're sure his temptation was overwhelming.

Once again, we want to make it known that we are not against the cattle industry or the study and practice of agriculture. However, we are against idiotic and juvenile writing. All Poly students, and especially Mustang Daily editors, need to band together to put an end to this "animal by-product."

Robert Curulla and Michael Hayes are business seniors.

Childish arguments don't make the grade



Editor,

I like beef. I like ribs. I like burgers. But as a "carnivore," I am still disappointed in how every person that ever defends the cattle industry comes across as childish and overly defensive. Shaun Crook's response to an attack by Mr. Dune on the cattle industry was no exception.

In defense of cattle ranchers, Shaun offers up iron-clad arguments such as "...how many cows have you talked to?" This irrefutable evidence for the humanity of cattle processing is backed up by cleverly articulated attacks on Mr. Dune such as "Just like you are going to get paid for corrupting the minds of young children (by becoming a teacher)," and questioning if Mr. Dune has failed a class because he is so stupid. It also becomes apparent that in his quest to offer up valid and concrete arguments, Mr. Crook managed to inspect the labels on Mr. Dune's shoes, jacket and wallet to make sure they were leather before he called Mr. Dune a hypocrite for possessing them.

Shaun, if you are going to try and persuade people that the cattle industry is humane and viable, personal attacks on members of the opposing opinion is not the way to do it. Facts are. If you find some of these, I'm sure we'd all love another letter from you.

Eric Samsel is a graphic communications junior.

Be thankful for animal products

Editor,

I would like to address the letter by graduate student Jonathan Dune on Tuesday, March 10.

First, Mr. Dune, I wonder if you know how much you contribute to the cruelty of raising animals. I am leaving off "for food" because I am assuming you are a vegetarian.

Did you take a shower this morning? Brush your teeth? Drive to school or take the bus? All of these activities use animal products. Animal products are in your shampoo, toothpaste, soap, your girlfriend's makeup, deodorant and there are over 100 animal products in a car, not including the leather seats. (Don't forget that they use animal products in the production of everything that is plastic.) These facts are available at the Farm Bureau on Tank Farm Road if you need verification.

But lets not forget your friends. Do you know anyone who is diabetic? A hemophiliac? Have any women in your family taken estrogen therapy for osteoporosis? Do you know anyone who has received a transplant? Anyone who takes blood thinners?

All of these people benefit from this "cruel" practice. This in and of itself

does not make it right, but it negates your second point about raising animals for fun.

As to your first point, yes I believe that animals have feelings, but I feel pain, hurt and humiliation so why shouldn't they? It is all a part of life. You feel the pain and you feel the joy, I think it is worth it. That is why I am still here. We are following the laws of nature, not of anything written down or developed by our consciousness.

Mr. Dune, I challenge you to do two things. First, stop this self hatred for being born into a predator species and instead be proud of the many products we have developed to use our resources to "help ourselves and others live pleasant and fulfilling lives."

Second, use your concern for animal well being to stop cruelty to the animals while they are alive. While working in an small animal hospital and in a humane society, I have seen more animal cruelty perpetrated by pet owners than I have seen in all of the animal production farms I have visited.

K.C. Randall is an agriculture science senior.

Humane takes on a brand new meaning

Editor,

I have to hand it to Colleen Walsh and Shaun Crook. Their commentaries have accomplished the impossible: convincing a vegetarian, who doesn't eat meat for political reasons, to admit that cattle are actually treated quite well. Even Descartes' brilliant argument (if animals held the capacity to suffer, then they would also possess the ability to articulate their pain) made no sense to me up until these last two weeks.

But now, I don't see how the logic of these opinions can possibly be refuted. Thank God I've finally been enlightened and, at last, realize that cows and other livestock really are treated "humanely."

It's true. In fact, as Mr. Crook implies, cattle may even have it better than humans. Cows don't have to worry about such trivial matters as tax returns, midterms, finals, even the threat of their offspring taking drugs. Their overseers, unlike ours, make sure they're provided with enough food, adequate shelter, protection and the necessary medical attention in case of illness or injury. In addition, cattle have ample space to graze in the "lush green pastures," a far cry from daily life in any industrialized city. And, although cows are fenced in, at least there's no armed guards at their borders like... say... in the United States.

As far as that whole killing thing: pain and cruelty are small prices to pay for knowing exactly when you're going to die. Just like prisoners on death row, livestock are relieved of the agony involved with wondering when they'll be caught in a drive-by, stabbed for their wallets, or

sent off to the Gulf to be gunned down and nerve gassed by those "smart enough to shoot."

And that asinine argument against the dairy industry? I know for sure that I'd much rather be hooked-up to a milking machine and give a little juice than be raped at gun point by some deranged criminal out on parole.

Also, I'd like to thank Mr. Crook for illustrating the often overlooked point that cattle are indeed just another "commodity and vital part of our economy." It's liberating, after recognizing how truly "humane" this treatment is, to know that cows are used solely to accumulate wealth and power— similar to the way our soldiers are used, the way we exploit migrant farm workers, or the plight of single mothers living in ghettos and working minimum-wage jobs for billion-dollar corporations, for instance.

I can honestly say I've finally been reformed. I now see the error of my ways and realize that getting rid of all the leather boots and belts and animal by-products in the world's kitchen won't change the fact that animals are treated more "humanely" than humans. Perhaps we should just accept the notion, like Colleen Walsh and Shaun Crook so conveniently do, that just like cattle, this institutionalized, profit-maximizing, most importantly "humane" treatment must simply be our "purpose and function" in this world.

Doug Cox is an English senior and recovering vegetarian.

Letter Policy:

Mustang Daily welcomes and encourages contributions from readers. Letters should be submitted complete with name, major or department, class standing and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit grammar, spelling errors and length without changing the meaning of what is written. Letters sent via e-mail will be given preference and can be sent to: jborasi@polymail.calpoly.edu. Fax your contribution to 756-6784 or drop letters by Building 26, Suite 226.

Editor's note: Make sure to include all the necessary information (listed above) in your letters to the editor. It's really, really important. Thanks.

Lipinski turns professional, out for 2002 games in Salt Lake City

By Barry Wiener
Associated Press

Tara Lipinski captivated the Olympics with her gold medal. Now the Winter Games no longer figure in her future, a decision that ends her budding rivalry with Michelle Kwan.

Lipinski said Tuesday she is turning professional and leaving the ranks of skaters eligible for the Olympics. She wants to train less so she can spend more time with her family.

Lipinski will make her pro debut April 24 at "Skate, Rattle 'n' Roll," a made-for-television event in Charleston, S.C.

That show is not sanctioned, and once the 15-year-old champion skates there, she can forget about going to Salt Lake City in 2002 to defend the title she won in Nagano, Japan.

The reinstatement window that applied to ineligible skaters before the 1994 Olympics — allowing such champions as Brian Boitano, Viktor Petrenko, Katarina Witt and Yekaterina Gordeeva and Sergei Grinkov to return to the Lillehammer Games — no longer exists.

On Wednesday night in Baltimore, Lipinski begins the Champions On Ice tour featuring Olympic, world and national medal winners.

She's also scheduled to appear in the Hershey's Kisses pro-am in Springfield, Mass., on April 18, which is sanctioned by the U.S. Figure Skating Association and the International Skating Union.

"I think now, I'm going to go pro," Lipinski said on NBC's "Today" show. "And for one major reason, I think — I really miss being home with my dad."

"I would love to go to the 2002 Olympics and try to win another gold," she said, adding that she would feel "almost a little greedy in doing that, especially to my parents, who have given up so much."

Richard Callaghan, Lipinski's coach, said he was surprised at the timing of the decision to turn pro, but he understood it.

"I'm sorry to see her leave the eligible ranks," Callaghan said. "She did a lot for women's skating. It would be nice to see her do more."

"She seems to want to do the pro circuit, maybe because there is less stress in training and so she can see her family more."

Lipinski trained with Callaghan at the Detroit Skating Club. Her mother lived with her in Michigan while her father stayed at their home in Sugar Land, Texas.

"Now I'll have four-day weekends and be able to be with my family because they mean so much to me," she said. "I don't want to be 21 and not know my dad."

After she skipped last week's world championships at Minneapolis, it became clear Lipinski and her advisers felt there was little to gain in remaining an Olympic-eligible skater.

"I've accomplished my dream," she said. "I think I need to give something back to them, so we can be a family again and really have that connection."

"I realized after Nagano how important it is to me to be with my mom and dad and be all together and have fun and go out to dinner and really be a family again. I owe that to my parents and myself."

Several agents estimated Lipinski could earn between \$13

million and \$15 million in endorsements after winning the Olympics.

Lipinski leaves eligible skating with a remarkable record. She became the youngest U.S. and world champion last year, then the youngest individual Olympic gold medalist in history at Nagano.

She is the best technical skater among the women, and her artistry improved significantly in the last two years.

But there will be no more Olympic showdowns with Kwan, the 17-year-old who won her second world title last Saturday. They met three times this season, with Kwan winning at the U.S. championships and at Skate America. However, Lipinski won the biggest prize at the Olympics, where Kwan was second.

Thirteen players sue Giants

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Thirteen baseball players who claim they were sexually harassed by a San Francisco Giants' scout in the Dominican Republic sued the Giants on Tuesday, saying the team knew or should have known of the harassment and failed to stop it.

The scout, Luis Rosa, was put on unpaid leave by the Giants last June while the team investigated the allegations, and resigned later that day. He was also charged with sex crimes and spent five months in jail before being released on bail last month.

Rosa, 52, spent 21 years scouting for the Giants and other teams, and recruited such players as Roberto and Sandy Alomar, Juan Gonzalez and Ivan

Rodriguez.

His accusers say Rosa demanded sex from them, and cut them from a Giants' farm team when they refused. One man said in the suit that he complied at first, then refused and was dropped from the team. Several players in the suit also accuse Rosa of pocketing part of their paychecks.

Rosa has denied the accusations and said the players were cut because they didn't have enough baseball talent. He also said he was under budget pressure from the Giants to reduce the number of players in camp from 40 to 26.

Three of his original accusers said recently that they had lied in order to force a court settlement. They were not among the 13 plaintiffs in Tuesday's U.S.

District Court suit.

The suit said Rosa subjected the players to "sexual jokes, comments and inquiries, uninvited and unwanted sexually oriented physical contact and gestures, and sexual advances to which the penalty of refusal was suspension or termination."

According to the suit, Jack Hiatt, the Giants' director of player development, was made aware of Rosa's conduct around mid-1996. The suit said the plaintiffs believed "other individuals in supervisory roles" for the Giants also learned of the scout's actions.

By failing to fire Rosa or prevent continued harassment, the team became legally responsible for his conduct, the suit said. It seeks unspecified damages.

There was no immediate comment from the Giants.

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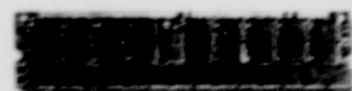
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Bats 'R' Us - Cal Poly seems to have found its offensive power. Led by Scott Sheldon's grand slam the Mustangs mounted a 16-11 win over Santa Clara.

Daily file photo by David Wood

Mustangs keep on winning

Jose Garcia
Daily Staff Writer

Two Cal Poly freshman are beginning to enjoy their maturation process on the baseball field in a grand fashion.

Jason Barringer and Scott Sheldon each banded out two home runs en route to a 14-6 spanking over visiting Santa Clara at San Luis Obispo Stadium.

Sheldon's first home run in a Mustang uniform was a grand slam that capped off a 10 run first inning. His second bomb knocked in three runs in the bottom of the sixth off Santa Clara pitcher sophomore Kevin Henley.

"I was pretty excited to get the

grand slam and a chunk of RBI's," Sheldon said.

Barringer followed the out-of-the-park barrage by connecting his third and fourth home runs of the season in the third and seventh innings. His five RBIs in the game give him a total of thirteen for the season.

"I hope we can continue to bang the ball out early the rest of the season," Barringer said. "We've started six different freshman this year and it feels good to finally be winning."

The Mustangs (12-28) are coming off their first series victory of the season over New Mexico State and have won three games in a row for the first time this season. Santa Clara's (21-16) five game winning

streak was put to a halt by the Mustangs.

Starting Mustang pitcher Justin Linquist (1-1) pitched four strong innings allowing only one run on three hits while striking out three. Four different Mustang pitchers were used the rest of the game.

Mustang head coach Ritch Price believes his team played one of its best games of the season.

"This was one of the finest games we've played this season. I think our freshmen and sophomores are on their way to becoming outstanding Division I players."

Cal Poly junior Matt Elam leads the Big West with 18 stolen bases.

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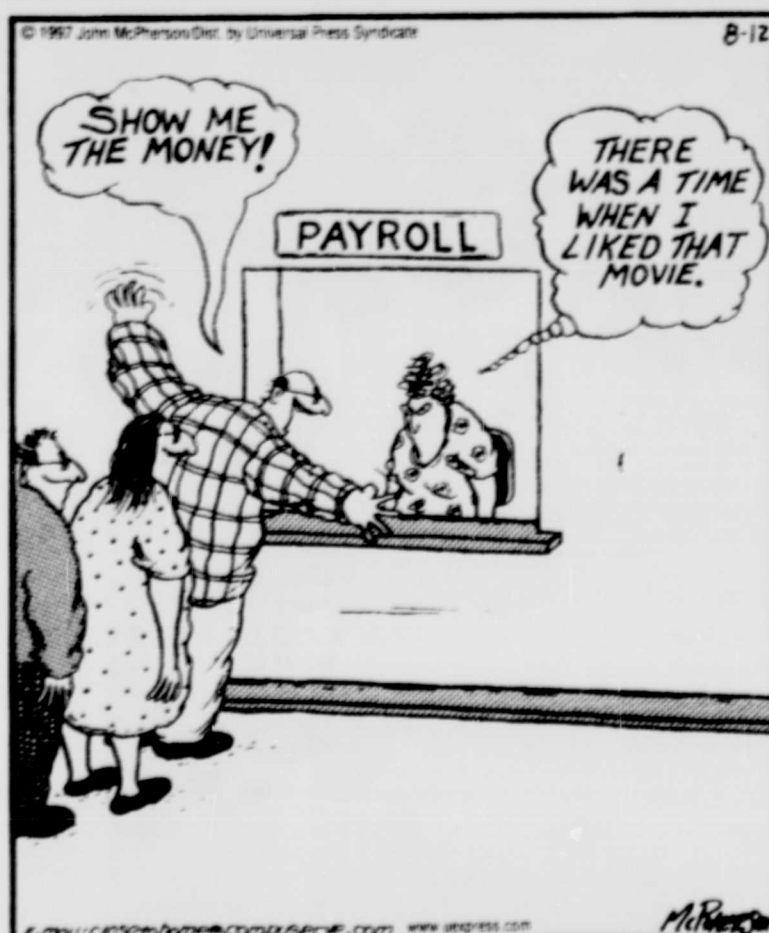


MISTER BOFFO

by Joe Martin



CLOSE TO HOME JOHN McPHERSON



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8 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1998

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Yesterday's Answer:

Lisa Boyer is the head Cal Poly softball coach.

Congrats Matt McCool!

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Name the two new Major League Soccer expansion teams added for the 1998 season.

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Santa Clara 6
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Softball

Sacramento State 1
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BRIEFS

Cienfuegos returns to Galaxy practice

Associated Press

PASADENA, — Los Angeles Galaxy midfielder Mauricio Cienfuegos practiced Tuesday for the first time since back spasms forced him to miss two matches, but coach Octavio Zambrano is uncertain if Cienfuegos will play Saturday.

"He's prepared to come back to the lineup," Zambrano said. "However, this is the type of injury where you have to be very careful because we don't want him to go through a prolonged non-playing situation."

"We'd rather be cautious and wait for him to be 100 percent and not have a problem in the future."

The Galaxy (3-0) will face the New York/New Jersey MetroStars (0-2) at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. in a match to be nationally televised by ABC. The match will mark the Galaxy debut of midfielder Wellington Sanchez, acquired Thursday from the MetroStars for forward Eduardo Hurtado, Los Angeles' all-time leading scorer.

Zambrano is uncertain how much Sanchez will play.

"For sure he is going to see some action in New York," Zambrano said at a Rose Bowl news conference introducing Sanchez. "We'll see what developments in the next four training sessions."

The 23-year old Sanchez, signed by MLS in February after being selected as Ecuador's Player of the Year in 1997, appeared in just one match with New York/New Jersey, playing the final nine minutes of a 3-2 loss to the Galaxy at the Rose Bowl March 28.

Softball grabs two Big West wins

By Kimberly Kaney
Daily Sports Editor

The Cal Poly softball team played on its home field yesterday for the first time in over two weeks.

Rains have postponed the last eight doubleheaders.

With the sun shining, raindrops fell from the blue sky, but the Mustangs managed to sweep the Sacramento State Hornets, 3-1, 1-0.

"This season has been really frustrating. We are just excited to get to play at home," Cal Poly head coach Lisa Boyer said.

These two conference wins improve the Mustangs' Big West record to 6-5 and their overall record to 17-12.

The Mustangs also gave Boyer her 300th career win.

"I kept forgetting about it," Boyer said. "I don't even give it a second thought. I am more happy the team won two games."

Senior pitcher Kelly Smith pitched an eleven inning shutout in game two.

Neither the Hornets or the Mustangs were able to get a rally started. Each inning passed with teams posting no more than one hit each.

In the bottom of the eighth inning the Mustangs had another chance to win the game. Kelly Sack, who went 7-for-9 on the day, grounded a single through the shortstop's glove. A sacrifice bunt by Kasey Poet advanced Sack to second.

With one out, Sara Stockton, who was hitless until the final inning, hit the ball straight to the pitcher and was out at first. With one more chance, Kelly Duncan hit a pop fly to centerfield that the Hornets picked off.

In the top of the eleventh, the Hornets' Haas hit a line drive over Limary's head out of leftfield and reached first. A sacrifice by Lori Mattson advanced Haas to second, but the Hornets'

chances would end when Haas was tagged out trying to steal third.

The Mustangs came out to close in on a win. Duncan hit a fly that dropped between the left-fielder and the shortstop to reach first. Anna Bauer hit a single line drive out to leftfield.

Sacramento State switched pitchers, but it didn't matter. Smith walked to first to load the bases with no outs.

Limary stepped up to the plate to hit a single

drive out to rightfield and score the single winning run.

In game one, Mustangs Kelly Sack, Kelly Duncan and Leilani Limary each posted a run for the Mustangs. With catcher Jill Haas giving the Hornets their solo run.

Pending cancellation by rain, the Mustangs will tromp out onto their home field again on Friday to take on Cal State Northridge and on Saturday to take on New Mexico State.



Daily photo by David Wood

Junior shortstop Leilani Limary slides into second to beat the throw from first. Yesterday, in the 11th inning of game two of the Mustangs' doubleheader against Sacramento State, Limary hit a fly to bring in the single winning run.

CLUB CORNER

ROLLER HOCKEY - At the CIHA Tournament in North Hills, Cal Poly beat U.C. Irvine 9-1, UNLV 10-0, and UNLV 10-4, and won the tournament. By winning their third straight qualifying tournament, they are top seeded for the Regional Tournament on April 26 in Elsinore.

MEN'S LACROSSE

The weekend before finals, Cal Poly lacrosse headed up to Stanford to play the Division I Cardinals. They played one of the best games of the year and came out victorious 9-8. The victory was a huge win for the Mustangs. The players stormed the field in victory, emotional and physically drained.

The next weekend lacrosse had games against Chico State on March 21 and University of Illinois March 22. The game against Chico was the biggest game so far this year. Chico is Cal Poly's rival in Division II North. The game would also determine the seeding for this year's playoffs. The game went back and forth with both sides fighting for the No. 2 seed in the playoffs (Sacramento State holds the No. 1 seed). In the end, the Mustangs earned a 10-9 victory and the No. 2 seed for the playoffs.

The next day, University of Illinois came into town for a game. Cal Poly was physically drained from a hard fought victory against Chico, and had many players out due to injury. The Mustangs jumped out to a 4-0 lead at half-time, but let the game get away in the final quarter, 6-4. It was a tough game and proved that Cal Poly needs some conditioning work.

Last weekend Cal Poly headed down to Loyola Marymount to take on the Division I Lions Saturday. The Lions jumped out to a 7-1 after one quarter of play, with great passing and quick scores. Things were not looking good for the Mustangs with a six goal deficit and their best player, Rob Schwiess, out with a pulled hamstring.

The Cal Poly defense had its best showing of the year, allowing the Lions only one goal the last three quarters. It was up to the offense to get the team back into the game.

Great ball movement and patience allowed Cal Poly to crawl back into the game and tie the game up in the third quarter, 7-7. Cal Poly took the lead, and never let it go, in a 11-8 come-from-behind victory. It was by far the biggest come back this year for Cal Poly. The game showcased Cal Poly's depth with a huge performance from defenders Joel Shirbroun, Mark Monge, Cory Musket, Brian Shea and Justin Frazier. Offense highlights included Doug Slezak with four goals and one assist, Jan Karachale with four assists and Kevin Flanagan with three goals.

This puts Cal Poly Lacrosse at a 6-3 overall record, with a 3-1 record in Division II North.



Daily file photo by David Wood